

THE

Capitol

NEWS FROM
HOLLYWOOD

VOL. 3, NO. 12

52

DECEMBER, 1945

Rey Plans Band After Navy Hitch

Alvino Rey is expected to receive his discharge from the Navy early in January and will organize a band immediately here on the west coast. Both the bandleader and his management are vague about the style of the planned ork but claim that it will be "full of musical interest."

Luise King, Rey's wife, expects a baby in February and, to be near her, the bandleader will do his first work with the ork in this territory, starting off with one-niters and a possible location booking later. After breaking in the new band here, Rey will head for NY and a big-time location booking.

Dizzy Gillespie Follows Heywood At Billy Berg's

Trumpeter Dizzy Gillespie, acclaimed as the outstanding exponent of the new or "rebop" school of jazz music, pays his first visit to the west coast when he opens with a six-piece outfit at Billy Berg's December 10.

The Diz, replacing Eddie Heywood, will hold over at the popular Vine Street spot for 16 weeks, according to the management. Earlier reports had Joe Liggins' Honeydrippers following Heywood but owner Billy Berg told the Capitol that last minute contract difficulties with Liggins nixed the deal.

At press time, personnel of Gillespie's new small crew wasn't known here. The trumpeter recently wound up a theater tour with his first big band and returned to NYC to organize another hot combo. One report said that alto-ist Charlie Parker and drummer Max Roach would have chairs in this latest Gillespie "rebop" outfit.



THE CAPITOL'S EDITOR thinks that this is one of the best pictures ever taken of Johnny Mercer. Informal, unassuming, it's an intimate glimpse of a man who, as songwriter, vocalist and president of Capitol Records, has contributed as much pleasure to music lovers during the past year as anyone in show business. Johnny Mercer and everyone else at Capitol wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a splendid New Year!

Mihn photo.

Edited by Frank Stacy
Assoc. Editor: Lou Schurrer

fan fare

Thanks From Yanks

Philippines

I enjoy your publication very much as do many of my buddies. By reading the Capitol I'm able to keep up with all your new releases and write my sister, who does my platter purchasing while I'm sweating it out in the Philippines. Thanks again for your kind consideration of Yanks overseas.

Pfc. Burton S. Stark
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Bowdoin Speaks Again

Brunswick, Maine

I am very sorry that two of my fellow students deplore the "untasteful literature" in your fine publication. Personally, I enjoy reading it very much. I like jazz but I'm not so narrow-minded that I won't give the "classic" a chance.

These intellectual "giants" are not in a position to criticize anything.

Dick Baker
Bowdoin College

Aussie's Report

Melbourne, Australia

I have to thank you for the complimentary copies of The Capitol which are thoroughly enjoyed by all hot music followers here. . . . Your magazine gives us plenty of news.

William H. Miller
Publisher of Hot Jazz Booklets
Box 2440 V, Melbourne

New Reader

Stockton, California

I ran across a copy of your magazine (November issue) a few days ago and it interested me very much. I am a returned veteran, an ardent jazz fan and have quite a collection of popular records. Your magazine is good and has up-to-date news of the music world which is really of interest to young jazz fans like myself.

Art Bregante
442 North Sutter St.

sunset and vine

THIS COLUMN'S favorite screwball singer, Danny Kaye, is back home after a 32,000 mile USO-Camp Show tour of the Pacific. Report from the GIs says that their favorite Kaye numbers were "Minnie the Moocher," "Melody in 4-F," "Ootchichornya" and "Dinah." Kaye told the press: "It was the greatest experience of my life." The comedian leaves for New York where he'll stay until April, then comes back to the coast to shoot "The Secret Life of Walter Mitty" for Sam Goldwyn. . . . The King Cole Trio smashed the house record at the Earle Theater in Philly. . . . Hollywood's Meadowbrook has Mutual air-time now. . . . Guess Jan Garber was right when he switched back to a sweet band. He's doing great out here.

Woody Herman Headed for Coast?

JAZZ FANS here in Hollywood are hoping like mad that the reports putting Woody Herman into the Palladium here next year are accurate. Coast characters have not heard the Herd for some time—really not since Woody and his gang became the band of the land. And, speaking of the Herd, there is a rumor that Joe "Flip" Phillips, sensational tenor-man, is cutting out. . . . Jerry Lawrence, who used to play famous old collectors' items on his "Wax Museum" show in NYC, is working for CBS on the coast now. . . . Advance tip for Christmas: Benny Goodman's Sextet is set for the Philip Morris "Johnny Presents" show on December 25. And you know, of course, that BG's band follows Harry James at the Meadowbrook out here. . . . Contrary to a thousand other garbled reports, Gene Krupa's ace tenor saxophonist, Charlie Ventura, will play with Gene at the Palladium here starting Christmas night. Charlie doesn't intend to build his band until later on in the year. . . . Lionel Hampton plays a concert at San Diego December 3. . . . Hillbilly note: Deuce Spriggins' band will record the musical score for Columbia's "Smokey River Serenade" and "Texas Jamboree."

Composer Handy Leaves Raeburn

GEORGE HANDY, taking his beard, smoked glasses and musical talents with him, has left Boyd Raeburn's band to embark on a career of acting, composing and arranging, Handy announced recently to a startled world. All kidding aside, those new arrangements that Handy did for Raeburn's band are nothing short of sensational. . . . There's a mix-up at the Casino Gardens about who follows Charlie Barnet's band. Ted Fio Rito was skedded originally to replace Barnet, but that deal looks as if it might be off. One thing is certain: Charlie Barnet and his band will not extend their engagement longer than they planned. The Mad Mab is too anxious for a vacation. . . . Stan Kenton has been selected as Look magazine's band of the year. . . . It's possible that trumpeter Billy Butterfield may be transferred from Arkansas to work with the Armed Forces Radio Service in Hollywood.

Johnny Mercer Trekking to NYC

STILL INTERESTED in putting on a Broadway musical show this year, Johnny Mercer and Harold Arlen will probably visit Manhattan later this month to pick a theater site and do some casting. . . . If you're a real dyed-in-the-wool swing band fan, you'll know who "Popsie" Randolph is. If you don't know, he's Benny Goodman's fabulous band boy and he became the father of a baby boy, Michael, recently. . . . November saw the loss of two of America's great songwriters, Jerome Kern and Gus Edwards. . . . There's still no confirmation of the reported marriage between Jo Stafford and Mike Nidorf. But, if it hasn't happened, a lot of people are convinced that it soon will. . . . Ivy Anderson is back in town. And, incidentally, she was one of the few good things about Ted Yerxa's last jazz concert, although she startled the hip portion of the audience by singing "My Wild Irish Rose," with really weird gestures. . . . Bassist John Simmons has joined Lee Young's band at the Down Beat Club here; while Zutty Singleton has moved his drums from the Streets of Paris over to Billy Berg's. . . . Well, see you next year. . . . Be-Baba-Luba!

Shaw Busts Band For Last Time

Artie Shaw, after closing at the Meadowbrook here, has retired from swing band business—for the last time, he says. Shaw gives out that he's quitting this time because he wants a home life (he recently married Ava Gardner) and traveling around the country with a band makes that impossible.

Intimates of Shaw report that at one moment he claims he'll never build another band while at other times says that he'll return to stick-waving if and when any of his yet-to-be-released recordings become big hits and he can coast into a good radio spot.

Meanwhile, Shaw is going ahead with plans involving production of a motion picture based on a name band, although story and its possibilities for screen are still in the vague stages.

At press time, several ex-Shaw sidemen were planning to line up with the band Alvino Rey plans to build upon getting out of service. Pianist Dodo Marmarosa intends to stay in Hollywood and get a local card. Guitarist Barney Kessel may leave for NYC and transfer to Local 802 there. Trumpeter Ray Linn has his own band on station KMPC here. Imogene Lynn, who sang with Artie, will go east to join Tommy Dorsey's band if her husband, clarinetist Mahlon Clark, takes a chair with TD.



CAPITOL'S Jo Stafford and Paul Weston, shown above digging Stan Kenton's band at the Palladium, recently wound up a series of disc dates for Capitol. Jo was leaving the west coast for NYC at press time to start her new NBC-Chesterfield show. Weston, musical director for the Joan Davis radio program, has a new tune coming out, written with Axel Stordahl and Sammy Kahn and called "Day by Day."

Bob Crosby Out of Marine Corps Has Date at Palladium February

Bob Crosby has returned to the name band field with a bang. Immediately after getting his discharge from the Marine Corps, the bandleader picked up a band already organized for him by Van Alexander and headed for San Diego and a booking at the Pacific Square Ballroom. Currently touring the west coast, Crosby's new crew, described as "on a semi-Dixieland kick," moves into Palladium February 5 for six weeks, following Gene Krupa.

Personnel of the new ork is almost entirely new, only one musician, trombonist Warren Smith, having been in Crosby's old band. Sidemen include lead trumpet Claude Bowen, formerly with Harry James and returning to the name band field after a lengthy illness; Jack Moots and "Quig" Quigley on jazz trumpets; Clint Neagley on first alto and Don Brassfield in the hot tenor chair. Bonnie Lou Williams, last with Tommy Dorsey handles vocals along with Crosby and Quigley, latter doing novelty stuff.

Capitol Stars Head Big New Year's Bash

Two Capitol stars, Peggy Lee and Stan Kenton, will head a list of celebrities including Charlie Barnet, the King Sisters and MCM star Lena Horne who will appear at a monster New Year's day bash in San Diego. Festivities, promoted by Larry Finley and dubbed "Tournament of Music," will be held at Balboa Stadium.



A LATE FLASH maintains that pipe-smoking Bob Crosby and his new band will soon be heard regularly on the air with a sponsored show. The rumor insists that Crosby has signed a deal with the Ford Motor Company for his return to the air-waves.

Cavallaro Gets New Radio Show

Carmen Cavallaro, piano-playing maestro, and his orchestra have been signed for the new edition of NBC's "World Parade" which will emanate from the west coast beginning Sunday, December 16, 12 noon (PST).

First show will originate from San Francisco, moving to Hollywood the following week (23). The program will consist of Cavallaro and an 18-piece orchestra with a male and female singer, the latter two not yet having been named.

Cavallaro will continue on the "Kraft Music Hall" over NBC until the end of the year and for three weeks will double between both programs.

hollywood beat

EXCITEMENT in Hollywood at press time centered around Norman Granz's stellar jazz bash set for the Philharmonic auditorium November 26. The young jazz promoter, who seems to have had far better luck with his jazz concert ventures than anyone else has ever had on the coast, had lined up a tremendously impressive array of talent for the Philly date. Stars included Coleman Hawkins, Lucky Thompson and Lester Young on tenors; Roy Eldridge, Meade Lux Lewis and Helen Humes, to mention a few. Following the Los Angeles date, Granz embarks with his jazz artists on a one-nighter tour of the west coast.

A lot of jazzmen in town are burned up at places like Billy Berg's because, say the musicians, spots like Berg's where the entertainment goes overboard to please the squares, are murdering jazz.

Last issue this column reported that the Plantation Club was closed—and it was for a while—but apparently it has opened again. At least it advertises Floyd Ray's band on its transcribed spot announcements, even though its phone never answers.

The Pied Pipers are expected back from New York in mid-December to cut some new Capitol platters and continue with Sinatra's radio show.

If this sounds incredible to you, just set it down as part of the Hollywood legend and then skip it: the first thing that Freddie Slack did when he hit town, according to his friends, was to head for Catalina Island with a bow and arrow to hunt wild boar.

Kitty Kallen was saved from possible serious injury the other day while visiting Dorlan's photographic studio in Hollywood. A large hunk of neon lighting was intercepted by make-up artist Bob King after it fell from the ceiling and plunged toward Kitty. King was taken to the hospital with bad gashes on his hands and arms.

Two rumors say that Boyd Raeburn's band will leave the William Morris office and Johnny Richards' ork will shed itself of MCA management. Both leaders are dissatisfied with the treatment they're getting from their bookers.

Horace Heidt says that he's going to renovate the Trianon. All we can say is it's a great idea because, like too many ballrooms out here, it looks really run down.



THIS MONTH'S nomination for fame is lovely Fran Warren, singing with Charlie Barnet's band currently on the west coast. Fran swung into the big time only a few months ago when she joined Barnet after short stays with the Art Mooney and Randy Brooks orks in Manhattan. Listen to her on the air and on records to see if you don't agree that she's a potential big star.

Skip Farrell in Town

Capitol's singing star Skip Farrell is in town currently for a disc date. The young singer, who has been doing radio and theater work in Chicago, heads back to the Windy City in a couple of days.

Les Paul Into Ciro's

The Les Paul Trio is playing currently at Ciro's here, sharing billing with the Enric Madriguera ork. Paul is famous for his guitar solos behind Bing Crosby's record vocals. Shortly before opening at Ciro's, his group appeared at a Ted Yerxa jazz concert here.

Hollywood Lures Deems

Barret Deems, jazz and novelty drummer known to his fans as "Deemsey," is breaking up the small combo he's been fronting in Chicago to come to Hollywood. The drummer, who'll work out a local card here, probably will rejoin Joe Venuti, his former boss.

Matthews Waxes Jazz at Capitol

Dave Matthews, top jazz tenor-man, composer and arranger, cut two dates for Capitol in Hollywood late last month with a crew of outstanding jazzmen. Matthews, who is not joining San Kenton's band as other reports had it, waxed jazz instrumentals on the platter dates, featuring musicians like Les Robinson, Gus Bivona, Bob Dukoff, Billy May, Allan Reuss and Nick Fatool.

Dave has been writing for other bands, including Charlie Barnet's, during his stay on the coast. He says he won't build an ork of his own but plans to return to NY after the first of the year to write for radio.

Corky Corcoran Still Plans Ork

Corky Corcoran has reported that he still plans to go out with a band of his own sometime early next year. Featured tenor horn with Harry James' currently, Corky will build his crew in New York City, playing a book written by James' arranger Johnny Thompson. Band will book through MCA.

Tenor-man in Business

Jazz tenor-man Bob Dukoff, formerly with Jimmy Dorsey's band, is branching out into the reed manufacturing business here. Saxist has already set up concern to manufacture "Bob Dukoff" reeds and has started a national publicity campaign. Dukoff, who also works with his horn on radio program in Hollywood, is married to Anita Boer, now singing with Harry James.

ELLINGTONIA

"Tricky" Sam Nanton, Duke Ellington's great trombonist, was seriously ill at press time, after having suffered a stroke in NYC. The Duke expected trumpeter Harold Baker back in the band soon, following his discharge from the army. Violinist-trumpeter Ray Nance, who left Duke recently to work on his own, was lining up a possible engagement at the smart Blue Angel night club in Gotham. Nance has assembled two guitars and bass (Junior Raglund, also last with Ellington) for his booking, apparently taking a cue from the famous Hot Club of France unit fronted by Django Reinhardt, which used a similar instrumentation. Oscar Pettiford replaced bassist Raglund in Ellington's ork.

Kenton Hails "Emotional" Jazz Era Says "Spirit" Not "Style" Is Vital

By FRANK STACY

Stan Kenton doubled up the longest pair of bandleader legs in the business and squeezed into a narrow booth in the drugstore on the corner of Sunset and Vine.

"And, furthermore," Kenton said, as a waitress handed us menus, "I'm convinced that the day has come and gone when you can make a success out of playing the standardized and, for me, rigid arrangements that made big names out of the Goodmans and the Dorseys. It's guts and emotional intensity, not perfectly contrived arrangements, that are the keynotes of a modern swing band."

"When swing got its start," Stan went on, "the emphasis was on clean-cut arranging that still allowed elbow room for the jazz soloists. I mean like the things that Fletcher Henderson did for Benny and that Sy Oliver did for Tommy Dorsey. They were great at first, nobody could dispute it. But they weren't enough. You can't go on playing them and arrangements like them forever. You reach a point where you've said as much as you can say that one way and you've got to start developing new qualities or maybe go way back to some old ones, re-examining them to see if something hasn't been overlooked. I believe that as much as those Sy and Fletcher arrangements did for the overall jazz picture, they're out of place today... almost anacronisms."

Herman's Great!

I asked Kenton what contemporary band was representative of what he termed "gutty" or "emotional."

"Woody Herman's band is a good example. Those guys really play with their hair down! They're wild but great! And they don't sacrifice any technical perfection to get feeling into their music either."

The other day I heard the tests on Stan's next record, "Artistry Jumps." It is exactly the kind of music he had been describing so I asked him about his own band.

"Naturally it's hard to talk objectively about your own band. You sound like a jerk if you say you think it's the greatest. But if you don't seem to believe it is the greatest, people think you're insincere or don't care a hoot. Frankly, I think that right now my band is on the right track. You know the up-



The Stan Kenton Band

hill pull we've had since I left the coast here a few years ago. At that time, I was really proud of the band. We played good music and nobody will ever convince me that we didn't. It was different, wallowing and getting better every day. Well, you know what happened back east. We laid the biggest egg ever seen on Broadway. After that I think I got confused. I didn't know whether I wanted to please myself and the real fans we had by continuing to play good music, or whether I wouldn't do better by making compromises. And I went on like that for quite a while."

War Made a Difference

Anyone listening to the Kenton band today knows that Stan decided on the solid kind of music he liked himself. I wondered what had made him choose that alternative.

"I don't know exactly," he said, gazing thoughtfully at the sugar bowl. "It happened just before we went into the Pennsylvania hotel in New York City. I think it was while we were on our way back from a theater date in Boston and I was thinking about the opening at the Penn. I was thinking about other things, too. The war was over. I'd always been convinced that wartime had thrown a damper on swing music. So it occurred to me—now is the time to let go... the time to play real music. Big band jazz is turning over a new page."

Examples of "Emotional" Jazz

I asked Stan what numbers he had in his book that illustrate exactly what he

means by "emotional" big band jazz.

"Well," he said, "there's 'Southern Scandal,' and 'Eager Beaver,' both of which we've been playing for some time. And then there's 'Painted Desert,' 'Frantic Fantasy,' 'Opus in Pastels' and 'Slow Motion,' although some of the latter tunes are still in their early stages and not yet finished products. One of the best ones, I think, is 'Artistry Jumps' which you mentioned just a minute ago. Capitol's releasing it this month. You heard it, what did you think of it?"

The answer to that is that I think it's easily the best record Stan's ever made. It's one of those records, in fact, that deserves to have its personnel listed for posterity. And here it is—

STAN KENTON PERSONNEL ON "ARTISTRY JUMPS":

Saxes — Vido Musso, Boots Mussulli, Al Anthony, Bob Cooper and Bob Giga.

Trombones — Milton Kabak, Freddy Zito, Jimmy Simms and Bart Varsalona.

Trumpets — Johnny Anderson, Buddy Childers, Ray Wetzel, Bobby Lympers and Russ Burgher.

Guitar — Bob Ahern.

Drums — Ralph Collier.

Bass — Eddie Safranski.

Piano — Stan Kenton.

Move over, Woody Herman, Chubby Jackson, Neil Hefti, Bill Harris and you other guys. You've got some competition up there now!



Harry James Band Takes Xmas Holiday

Harry James will give his band five weeks vacation after closing the Meadowbrook here on December 23. James' management insists that the band is not breaking up but is merely taking a well-needed rest.

At the same time, it is felt in music circles that a great many James sidemen (especially those without contracts guaranteeing them pay on lay-offs) won't be on hand when the bandleader reorganizes in February.

Other James news had it that the maestro might replace Xavier Cugat on Rudy Vallee's show, but this had not been confirmed at press time. And, incidentally, it seems very likely that Anita Boyer, now singing with James in place of Kitty Kallen, will not return to the fold after the vacation.

Change at Hangover

The Hangover, musicians' jam spot on Vine Street here, is losing pianist Bill Early. It was Early who followed Bob Zurke at the club after the latter's death early in 1944. There was no replacement set for Early at press time.

JO STAFFORD
with PAUL WESTON
and his Orchestra
'SYMPHONY'
'DAY BY DAY'
Capitol
RECORD
227



BANDLEADER Guy Lombardo beams at composer Hoagy Carmichael as the two examine the Chelsea "Autograph" Album auctioned off in New York City for the benefit of the 8th Victory War Loan Drive. Lombardo's sponsors, makers of Chelsea cigarettes, have assembled one of the largest collections of famous signatures in the world as their contribution to the drive. It will include autographs of President Truman and hard-to-get movie stars like Greta Garbo.

Ina Ray Hutton Back in H'wood

Bandleader Ina Ray Hutton was expected back on the west coast at press time, following her recent trip east to settle contract difficulties with Frederick Brothers, her former bookers.

Agency claims that Ina owes them some commission loot and the femme baton-waver has appealed to James C. Petrillo, head of the musicians' union for judgment in her favor.

As soon as her affairs with the agency are straightened out, Ina will start plans for a new band here on the west coast, handled by new management.

REVIEW

LIONEL HAMPTON
AT THE TRIANON

It's the considered opinion of many jazz followers that Lionel Hampton's band engages in too much flashy musical display at the expense of a more solid and unpretentious jazz. Nobody, however, can say that Hampton's band doesn't give the customer his money's worth.

At the Trianon, where Hamp and his boys broke the opening night attendance record, it would have been impossible to find a dissatisfied patron. The music was loud, frantic—and there was lots of it. Each set was highlighted by two or more Hampton exercises on the vibes and ended with a flag-waving "Flying Home" (the tune appears under various names now but it's still "Flying Home") that literally put the crowd in a frenzy.

Hampton himself, of course, got the loudest and longest cheers but there's nothing wrong with his vocalist, Dinah Washington, who can sing blues as well as anybody around. Pianist Milt Buckner and reed-man Herbie Fields (who also does occasional ballad vocals) are sidemen whose work is startlingly effective from a visual viewpoint and great jazz in the bargain.

—STACY

Kings on the Road Follow With Copa

The King Sisters, currently on the road playing theaters in New Orleans, Louisville, Indianapolis and Omaha, will return to Hollywood at the end of their trek for a brief rest. Then they move to Manhattan for a January 4 opening at the Copacabana, where they'll stay for four weeks.

Platter Spinner

DOUG FIELD spins and spiels the 11 p.m. to midnight "550 Club" on KOY, Phoenix, Arizona. It's a two-handed

trick that involves rolling the discs, pitching commercials and "on - the - air" talks with club members via telephone. Doug says he's been in show biz since he learned to talk. Favorite artists are June Hutton, Pied Pipers and Les Brown's singer, Doris Day. Present ambition: to own a sail-boat . . . with motor, just in case.



Father '45 Steps Down!

"Junior" Ready To Mount the Podium

By George H. Plagens

After a sensational run of a full year fronting a really hip outfit, that sterling character (and we do mean character), that grrr-eat gate, that solid citizen (and we do mean solid), Granpaw "Baton-Buster" Forty-five, is even now directing his boys in the last notes of his last number of the last set in a series of dance jobs, jazz concerts, radio appearances, recording dates and gigs.

Approaching the podium where the old master is knocking himself out for all time, is his protegee and successor, that maestro in miniature, wearing olive drab diapers (and that's all!), the Punk from Podunk, the Kid himself in rosy pelf, the stick-swinging swaddling, number one nipper of the Nursery Nine, Master New Year, better known as Forty-six, or Stinky, Jr. The scarcely-weaned-one speaks:

"Are you living, old man?"

These youngsters! The old boy mutters in his beard. Am I living? Mebbe not; he thinks to himself, but I shore did while it lasted! Seems like only yest'dy I was a-tuggin' at the wrinkled robe of my paw, jest crazy to take the stick and tap the edge of the stand and get to swingin'. Them was the days.

First of the Year

Kid name of Kenton was killin' the cats with his power-house crew. That was in January. And the band's hot combo, the King Cole Trio, was toppin' the list of torrid tunesters after a twelve-month of tryin'. Then in February, a bunch of boys cut some sides for Capitol that were destined to make history—four volumes of The History of Jazz, it turned out to be after some more men made a record date in March, and again in April and so on. . . . About that time, Artie Shaw made the papers with his views on money-mad maestros, et al. Jazz concerts, nearly every month, were booked by the band and L.A. and Hollywood began to jump like crazy as hip hot-men came to town and sat in with righteous groups to beat it out. . . . guys like Heywood, tram-man Dickenson, skin - socker Singleton, Coleman "The Hawk," Blues-queen Holiday, piano-poker Sullivan and, oh yes, a man named Ellington was holding sway in the cinema city, as well as sundry small combos and big name bands, Barnet, Jacquet, Ceelle Burke, Slim Gaillard, Red Callender, Billy Eckstine and a character called Carter, Benny—who was amazing mobs with his music.



Then Came Spring

It was long about April that a mid-night curfew failed to dampen the doings in dozens of nite-spots and several side-men cut out from the mother band on junkets in the frenzied field of fronting, men like Matthews, Cherock and Butterfield. Kay Starr, who left off canarying for Charlie The Mad Mab, did a disc date for Capitol's Dave Dexter with an all-star side-men set-up. Pert, petite Peggy Lee made her home in Hollywood and her new records were released in May and June by the hit-conscious heads of Capitol Records. Jo Stafford climaxed her first year as a single act by signing as singer for the Ford radio show. Liltin' Martha Tilton went overseas that month with Jack Benny, toupéd poor-man's Heifitz, to entertain our fighting forces. Red Nichols led his five new Pennies into an engagement at one of the better joints, which turned out to be a sort of home for him. A man name of Mercer was way ahead in the hit parade with his words and music in a handful of hits.

The Heat's On!

Come July, the Kenton Krew had a new chirp in June Christy and the Dinning Sisters teamed up with a young bari-

tone, Skip Farrell, for a pair of pop sides for Capitol, while a Latin lad, Andy Russell, latched onto a co-star contract with Joan Davis in a radio routine. In August Crescent City Kid Ory made it jump at the Jade with his N. O. outfit, strictly from ragtime. A trumpeter named Louis Armstrong lifted the lid of the Trianon Ballroom with his stratosphere swing stylings and Bill "Riff" Basie beat it out at what is now the Meadowbrook in Culver City. Sad news in September was the hiatus of the Capitol Newsmag editor, D. Dexter, Jr., who left the brotherhood of the black and silver label for a solo stint in the frantic field of music as record date supe, free-lance writer, critic, commentator and minister without portfolio in the court of hot music. Bashful Betty Hutton made movies and recorded hits from them for Capitol, and, under cover of the furore attendant upon the establishment of a new Capitol Newsmag editor, a Mr. Frank Stacy, un-burned Easterner from the desks of D--n B--t mag, Miss Hutton became the bride of Ted Briskin.

Winding It Up

Songstress Margaret Whiting had a honey of a Capitol record hit early in October, as did Peggy Lee, Johnny Mercer, Stan Kenton and Jo Stafford and Johnny Johnston. The battle of Jazz, Old and New, was joined with the entry into the Jade Room of Howard McGhee, of the hot horn modern style, where New Orleans' Ory had held sway. A cat called Harry "The Hipster" Gibson was knocking them out at a Vine Street establishment,—wait! That was in November already . . . durn it, mumbles the old maestro, I'm a-slippin' alright. Can't remember who was what or when. Forgot what month the war ended—the wars, I should say. Lots of boys comin' home, now . . . you see olive drab everywhere. Well, better let 'im up here. I'm right tired. . . . Here, kiddo, take this stick. Swing it in health, Junior. I'm gonna take five. . . .

The peanut mounts the podium, full of triumph. He raps the stand sharply, pipes, "'Auld Lang,' gang—from the top. . . ."



JOHNNIE JOHNSTON

'ONE MORE DREAM (AND SHE'S MINE)'

'AS LONG AS I LIVE'

Capitol
RECORD

with THE SATISFIERS and LLOYD SHAFER'S ORCHESTRA

CAPITOL jazz

1945



THROUGHOUT JAZZ HISTORY, no hot group has achieved such instantaneous acclaim as Nat "King" Cole's Trio. A Capitol discovery, now the most successful jazz combo in business, it features Nat's jazz-impregnated vocals and piano, Oscar Moore's melodic guitar and Johnny Miller's steady-pulsing bass.



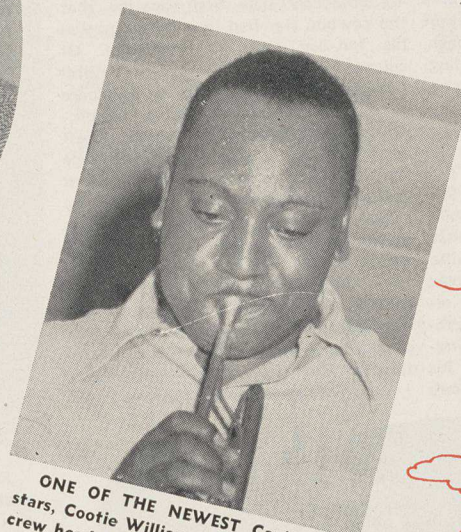
BOBBY SHERWOOD and his orchestra are featured in the fourth album of Capitol's "History of Jazz." The "History," containing forty platter sides and representing almost every great contemporary jazzman, is an unprecedented recording venture.



SYMBOLIC of Capitol's deep interest in jazz was its release in 1945 of records by Peggy Lee singing tunes she wrote with her collaborator-husband Dave Barbour, who accompanied her vocals with his jazz-solid guitar. Comments on the platters and the scores of other hot sides issued during the year show clearly how much Capitol's concern with hot music is appreciated. It seems unnecessary to add that Capitol's interest in jazz will continue to grow.



MAKING JAZZ RECORDINGS can be a serious proposition, as the expressions on Stan Kenton and Capitol recording director Jim Conkling indicate. Kenton's crew, along with those of Benny Carter, Billy Butterfield, Cootie Williams, Freddie Slack and Bobby Sherwood, waxed some of war's top big band jazz.



ONE OF THE NEWEST Capitol jazz stars, Cootie Williams fronts a powerful crew headed straight for the top of the name band list. Cootie's trumpet work consistently wins highest honors in polls conducted by music trade papers.



Daily Life of Cowboy Star Is Full, Fast and Frenzied!

By LEE GILLETTE

Next time you see your favorite cowboy star on the screen, or hear him on your loudspeaker, remember this tale! Making phonograph records is a lot of fun for all of us, but it's also a day's work. Let's take a typical day in the life of Tex Ritter. Tex, who lives on a beautiful ranch near Van Nuys, California (yes, it's in San Fernando Valley) has his first cup of morning coffee about 5:30 a.m., after which he jumps into his station wagon for a nine-mile drive to his studio for some picture shooting. At 12:30, he hops over to Brittingham's in the CBS Building for a quick lunch. Then, back on the lot for more picture posing, he takes a few moments here and there to look over the lyrics on four songs to be recorded that night. He finishes up at the studio about 6 o'clock, grabs a quick dinner, drives two miles to Capitol Records for a recording session. The session might run three hours. But it also might run five.



TEX RITTER

I remember while cutting Tex's "Children's Album," we called time at 2:30 a.m., after six hours of continuous recording. After the session, a bite to eat, then off to the Valley for a few hours sleep. Next morning, up again, and a repeat of the previous day's routine. Naturally, this doesn't go on day in and day out, because there is a limit to the number of records an artist makes, but then we have personal appearances.

Tex has been on the road almost continuously for the past seven months. He has just returned to Hollywood after a tour which covered every state east of the Mississippi, and now that he's back, it's time to start doing more recording, if we can find time before he latches on to another tour!

Fowler's Just as Busy

Let's look in on Wally Fowler's private (?) life. (No picture or radio star has a private life, believe me!) Wally rises at 4:30 a.m., grabs breakfast, drives to the WSM studios in Nashville, does a broadcast at 5:15, then relaxes. Until 6 o'clock! That's when the rehearsal begins for the next day's program. After a couple of hours of singing and playing, Wally gets over to his publishing house to get the wheels

moving. Fowler Publications has had quite a number of big hits to its credit, and most of them were written by Wally himself.

Since Wally joined WSM and the Grand Ol' Opry, he keeps busy doing one-night stands throughout the South, leaving Nashville many an afternoon about 4 o'clock, and returning in time to get an hour's sleep before his morning broadcast. The first vacation that the cowboy star had in eight years was his ten-day stay in Hollywood. Of course, he cut eight sides for Capitol while here, but that was in his spare time! He also made personal appearances on stations KFVD, KFVB, KGER and KMPC . . . also at the Riverside Rancho, 97th Street Corral, Western Palisades and Venice Pier.

But with all the trials and tribulations of the recording business, even the stars find a minute here and there for relaxation. And not only that, if they weren't making pictures and recordings, or doing radio and theatre appearances, they wouldn't be happy. Their greatest relaxation is on a postman's holiday. And I guess that goes for us, too!

Freddie Martin Lombardo Swap Far From Definite

Music Corporation of America, bookers for the Guy Lombardo and Freddie Martin bands, claim that some over-zealous character (unnamed) beat the gun on a story which said that the two leaders would swap dates at the Ambassador here and the Roosevelt in New York City.

Though the bookers do deny the report, there's no question but what Lombardo and Martin have discussed it, and that the unique deal may take place some time next year.

Meanwhile, Martin is working on plans for a possible cross-country tour, sharing the bill with the comedian Jack Carson.

Aragon Holds Herbeck

Ray Herbeck, who followed Bobby Sherwood into the Aragon here, will probably hold over indefinitely at that spot. He's been drawing good crowds at the Santa Monica ballroom.

When Herbeck does cut out, Aragon management has set Lawrence Welk's ork to take over the band stand.



IT'S A JOURNALISTIC RULE that every issue of a lively magazine contain at least one "cheese-cake" photo. If there's anybody in the audience who doesn't know what "cheese-cake" means when used in this sense, a brief glance at the shot above of lovely June Christy, Stan Kenton's vocalist, should supply the definition. — Gene Lester photo.



Heywood Ork Changes Its Plans

Reshuffling in Eddie Heywood's plans finds the pianist moving out of Billy Berg's into the L. A. Orpheum Theater December 11 for a week, then into Shepp's Playhouse December 19 for a special five-week booking. Following Shepp's, Heywood returns to the Orpheum for another week and then will head back east. A rumored engagement at the Copacabana in Manhattan is still hanging fire as are dates at the Zanzibar and the Paramount Theater.

Ork recently wound up scenes for the forthcoming Monogram picture "High School Kids" in which Heywood's arrangement of "Loch Lomond" is a featured number.

Cates Makes Dates

Opie Cates, musical director on several top radio shows emanating from Hollywood, is playing regular dance dates locally with a band made up of ace studio musicians. Cates, conductor of the Judy Canova and Bob Burns shows among others, made his ballroom debut a few days ago at the Civic Auditorium in Pasadena.

An odd twist to Cates' venture is that his featured vocalist is Bill Hendrix, who doubles as publicist for the band-leader's radio shows.

FRANK SINATRA AND ALAN LADD in the same photo make it a collector's item, especially with the Voice acting like a hard character with a gun and Ladd trying to look like a swoon-singer by holding a song manuscript. The only thing the pic lacks to get every gal in the audience in a dither is Van Johnson and he works for another studio so that's out.

Chi's Pete Daily Books "If" Cafe

Chicago cornetist Pete Daily is working with a four-piece band at the "If" cafe at 8th St. and Vermont here. Daily came from Chicago recently, picked up a band for the "If" date that has Red Cooper on drums; Don Owens on piano; Bobby Stoll on clarinet and tenor. Group is also set for recording dates in Hollywood.

band stands

STAN KENTON: Palladium
GENE KRUPA: Palladium Opening Dec. 25
RED NICHOLS: Morocco Club
EDDIE HEYWOOD: Billy Berg's
DIZZY GILLESPIE: Billy Berg's Opening Dec. 10
LIONEL HAMPTON: Trianon
JAN GARBER: Trianon Opening Dec. 4
CHARLIE BARNET: Casino Gardens
HOWARD MCGHEE: Streets of Paris
RAY HERBECK: Aragon
JIMMY GRIER: Biltmore Hotel
FREDDY MARTIN: Ambassador Hotel
CELLE BURKE: Bal Tabarin
MATTY MALNECK: Slapsy Maxie's.
GERALD WILSON: Shepp's Playhouse
EDDIE HEYWOOD: Shepp's Playhouse Opening Dec. 19
MIKE RILEY: Riley's Madhouse
JOE TURNER: Joe Turner's Blue Room
KID ORY: The Jade
SLIM GAILLARD: Billy Berg's
FREDDIE FISHER: Radio Room
ENRIC MADRIGUERA: Ciro's
LES PAUL: Ciro's
SPADE COOLEY: Riverside Rancho
EDDIE LeBARON: Mocambo
CEE-PEE JOHNSON: Swing Club
WINGY MANONE: Gay Inn
LEE YOUNG: Down Beat

Skeets Herford Building Band

Skeets Herford, former featured sideman with Tommy Dorsey and Alvino Rey, will step in front of his own crew when he gets out of service. Herford (used to be Herfurt) is now stationed with Armed Forces Radio Service here but it's expected that he'll receive his discharge sometime in January.

Ork will be conventional six brass, five reeds, four rhythm with a gal singer and Herford featuring his own alto-horn and novelty vocals. Booking agency isn't set but GAC is supposed to be interested.

"ARTISTRY IN RHYTHM"

STAN KENTON

'ARTISTRY JUMPS'
'JUST A-SITTIN' AND A-ROCKIN''
Vocal by June Christy

and his Orchestra
Capitol RECORD 229

THE KING COLE TRIO

'COME TO BABY, DO!'
'THE FRIM FRAM SAUCE!'
Vocal by KING COLE

Capitol RECORD 224

'Carnegie' Pic 'Killer'—Even For H'wood

The most extravagant musical movie, featuring the largest array of musical numbers, is the claim being made for the \$3,500,000 technicolor film, "Carnegie Hall." It is being produced here by William Le Baron and Boris Morros for Federal flickers.

Schedule for the picture demands thirty-one different musical passages, not counting the atmospheric music heard on the sound track background. Nineteen of the thirty-one special productions will be given full staging, while twelve others will be given less expensive treatment.

And that isn't all. The producers claim that no two musical numbers resemble each other. This will be possible because Carnegie Hall (which is the world's greatest concert auditorium) has presented, through the years, every imaginable kind of music from Beethoven literally to Boogie Woogie.

Casting for the fabulous flicker had not started at press time.

Buddy Rich Sets Own Band at Last With Sinatra Aid

Drummer Buddy Rich has left Tommy Dorsey's ork and is setting a crew of his own in rehearsal within a few days.

Rich, who left TD in Manhattan, has been talking about building his own ork for well over a year, or since he got out of the Marine Corps. It wasn't until now, however, when Frank Sinatra put up \$25,000 backing for the band that Rich reached rehearsal stages.

Band will be booked through MCA, play one-niters first, then move into the Terrace Room in New Jersey for its first location booking. Friends of Rich say that the fledgling stick-waver is anxious to bring his band out to the west coast as soon as possible.



JOHNNIE JOHNSTON figures in the news several times over this month. Most importantly, his wife presented him with a son, John Dennis, weight 8 pounds 9 ounces, on November 10. Then he has acquired a new vocal group, called The Satisfiers, to back his latest Capitol release. And, after finishing a date at the Copacabana in Miami early in January, he heads for Hollywood and a role in MGM's "Till the Clouds Roll By."

First French Songs Arrive in Hollywood

The first shipment of new French songs published by Ralph S. Peer's Paris office has been received here, and exploitation campaigns are being set for their introduction by top bands and singers. All top hits in France, songs will probably have English lyrics by Al Stewart. Among them are "Au Paradis," "Dans Les Plaines du Far West," "Heureux Comme un Roi," and "Je Ne Croix Plus au Pere Noel."

movie music

Enric Madriguera's ork has been signed for a two-reel short by Universal.

It seems hard to believe that the really fine jazz short subject "Jammin' the Blues" laid a financial egg but informed sources at Warner Brothers say that such is the case. Sad to hear because it probably will mean that Hollywood will never dare touch "arty" jazz again.

Not all of the Hollywood studios are apathetic about an intelligent treatment of name bands. There's a man named Gordon Hollingshead, for example, over at Warner Brothers who has come up with what sounds like a bright approach to filming swing music. You'll see the first of his name band shorts very soon (Sonny Dunham's band is featured) and notice that instead of merely sticking the band on a stand and shooting pictures around it, Hollingshead tries to sketch a brief biography of the leader. Besides Dunham, Jan Savitt, Spade Cooley, Carlos Molina and Stan Kenton will be subjected to the new Hollingshead treatment in forthcoming flickers.

Dinah Shore will sing in another Walt Disney production. Her vocalizing for "Make Mine Music" so impressed Disney that he wants her for "Bongo," the story of a circus bear, which will be released through RKO.

Bandleader Bob Mohr, working at the Aragon, will play the role of a bandleader in Columbia's "Lone Wolf On Broadway." Perfect casting, at last.

Songwriters Julie Styne and Sammy Cahn keep busy. They've just completed four tunes for Paramount's "Ladies' Man" in which Eddie Bracken sings for the first time.

Phil Moore is in town talking to the movie studios about backing for his musical play "Meet Mr. Boogi." It'll be filmed after it plays on Broadway.

How come those clever "Jasper" Puppets that George Pal puts out don't get more attention? They're not Jim-Crowish, they're funny and the musical scores are great. Incidentally, Pal starts on a new "Punch and Judy" series soon, to be released next year.

Platter Spinner

DICK TUCKER, young record-twirler for WEIM, Fitchburg, Mass., greets morning listeners with his popular



"Breakfast Music" show and joins them for supper on "Melody Matinee" for more chatter and disc requests. Dick's a Fitchburg boy, has been with the Good Neighbor station since it opened four years ago, though he took time out for a spell with the Army Signal Corps. He handles special features besides announcing, writing and directing shows for this Mutual outlet.

MGM Will Finish Jerome Kern Biog Early Next Year

MGM's "Till the Clouds Roll By" flicker biography of the late Jerome Kern will be completed in January, according to a statement recently released by the movie studio.

Casting for the pic has been completed. Robert Walker will play Kern and Jaqueline White will enact the role of his wife. Edward Arnold will play Victor Herbert and Paul Langton will appear as Oscar Hammerstein II. Top artists who will appear as themselves in the movie include Frank Sinatra, Jeanette MacDonald, June Allyson and Gloria De Haven. Judy Garland, who does two numbers as Marilyn Miller, has already finished shooting her scenes.

Shortly before his death on November 11 in NYC, the composer had made a trip to Hollywood to supervise production on "Show Boat," his greatest success.

Louis in Puppetoon

Louis Armstrong and his band will start recording the sound track of a new George Pal "Puppetoon" flicker sometime in January. Besides making the flicker's score, Satchmo himself will have an acting role in the short subject.

Cootie Starts Zanzibar

Capitol's great trumpet star, Cootie Williams, moves into the Zanzibar in NYC December 4 for an eight-week booking. Cootie's ork follows that of Duke Ellington, his ex-boss.

radio riffs

THERE is still no word whether or not Bing Crosby will return to the air this year, but it looks very doubtful. Apparently Der Bingle really meant it when he said that he wanted to have more time for himself. Still, don't be too surprised if he does make a deal with General Motors for next year some time.

Dig, if you can, Red Nichols' fine radio shots over KECA from the Morrocco Club on Vine St. here. They're as good music as anything coming out of Hollywood. Red made another change in sidemen recently, clarinet Gus Bivona taking over Heinie Beau's chair.

Ira Cook, disc jockey over KFAC every night, is the newest songwriter in our midst. With Billy Austin, Ira has written a tune called "Check That Wreck," designed for the Safe Winter Driving League.

Ensign Dennis Day will probably be back on the airwaves within three months, because it's expected that he'll shed his Navy uniform by that time.

Navy bandleader Sam Donahue is back on the west coast again after a hurried trip to Washington where his band was broken up. Sambo has a new crew here in Hollywood now and is doing dates for Armed Forces Radio Service. A lot of people wish that he would get out of the service and get a chance to build the great band that he certainly will build.

Betty Bradley, who has been playing Fifi the cigaret girl on Rudy Vallee's show, has been given a promotion along with the program's change in stars. From now on, Betty is no longer Fifi, cigaret salesman, she's the singing star of Vallee's night club in the script.



KITTY KALLEN, who left Harry James recently to try out on her own, starts off her single career auspiciously December 17 when she opens at the Golden Gate Theater in San Francisco. She heads for NY the first of the year for radio and theater work.

Teddy Walters On Blue Network

Teddy Walters, who left Jimmy Dorsey's band several months ago to try a vocal single, is being given a build-up here by the American network out of Hollywood.

Walters, who has been doing afternoon shows backed by Buzz Adlam's band for the past couple of weeks, starts on a new American show December 1. Program will also feature gal singer, as yet unchosen. Peggy Lee, Betty Bradley and Connie Haines are all mentioned as possible choices for sharing the bill with Walters.

Jazz Stars in Flicker

Tenor-man Coleman Hawkins, bassist Oscar Pettiford and blues-singer John Josh White are among the jazz artists featured in the new Universal movie called "Crimson Canary." Flicker, scheduled for release in your neighborhood soon, has a musical background scored entirely in the jazz idiom.

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'IN THE MIDDLE OF MAY'
'AREN'T YOU GLAD YOU'RE YOU'
From Rainbow Production 'Sells of St. Mary's'
With Paul Weston and His Orchestra

ELLA
MAE
MORSE



'BUZZ ME'
'RIP VAN WINKLE'
From Aster Pictures 'Caldonia'
With Billy May's Orchestra

Capitol
RECORD 226



Four new, exclusive *Capitol* Albums
for Christmas giving!



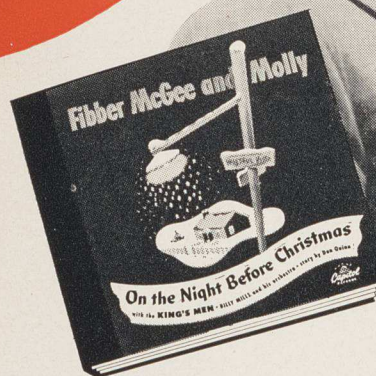
Here are a few of Capitol's many album sets, all of them Hits from Hollywood. Attractively packaged, they make welcome, lasting Christmas gifts that afford year 'round enjoyment. At your favorite record store.



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world's greatest
juvenile actress, tells
"Two Stories for Children,"
Album CC-21 \$2.75*

★ **FAMILIAR HYMNS** which have lived down through the ages are sung by world-famed St. Luke's Choristers.

Album BD-15
\$2.50*



★ **FIBBER MCGEE AND MOLLY**
offer a swell music and story version of "On the Night Before Christmas."
Album CC-20
\$2.75*



*PLUS TAXES



★ **TEX RITTER,**
favorite cowboy star, spins tall tales of the Lone Star State in song and story.
Album BD-14
\$2.50*



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Songwriters at Sherwood Date



THE SERIOUS EXPRESSIONS seem to say that there must be some notes missing from the score but, really, it's nothing like that at all. The cameraman asked composers Julie Styne (left) and Sammy Cahn (right) to "do something interesting" while he snapped their pic and, naturally, they headed for the manuscript of their latest tune. And they even got bandleader Bobby Sherwood and his

vocalist, Marcia Rice, to look concerned! Bobby and his band headed east after their recent Capitol disc date to open the Adams Theater in Newark for one week beginning November 29. On December 14, the ork moves into the Claridge Hotel in Memphis for two weeks and will probably go into NY Capitol Theater the first of the year.

— Charlie Mihn photo